

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Particulates comprising silica, an aluminum oxide in an amount of ~~less than about 25%~~ about 0.1 percent to about 25 percent by weight, and at least one void, the particulates having a specific gravity of less than about 2.2, a particle size of 8 U.S. Mesh or smaller, and a substantially spherical shape, wherein the at least one void communicates between a point inside of the particulate, and a surface of the particulate and an environment surrounding the particulate.
2. (Original) The particulates of claim 1 comprising from about 30 percent to about 70 percent by weight silica.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) The particulates of claim 1 further comprising calcium oxides.
5. (Previously Presented) The particulates of claim 1 wherein the silica and aluminum oxide comprise combustion products of carbonaceous materials.
6. (Original) The particulates of claim 1 comprising a particle size of 25 U.S. mesh or smaller.
7. (Original) The particulates of claim 1 wherein the particulate is capable of withstanding a closure stress of at least about 2,500 psi.
8. (Previously Presented) The particulates of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the outer layer is vitrified.
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Currently Amended) Particulates comprising at least about 30% silica, ~~less than about 25%~~ aluminum oxides in an amount of about 0.1 percent to about 25 percent by weight, a plurality of internal voids, and a substantially spherical shape, wherein at least one of the plurality of internal voids communicates between a point inside of the particulate, and a surface of the particulate and an environment surrounding the particulate.
11. (Original) The particulates of claim 10 comprising at least about 40 percent by weight silica.

12. (Currently Amended) The particulates of claim 10 comprising less than about 20% by weight aluminum oxides.

13. (Original) The particulates of claim 10 further comprising calcium oxides.

14. (Original) The particulates of claim 10 wherein the silica and aluminum oxides comprise combustion products of carbonaceous materials.

15. (Original) The particulates of claim 10 comprising a particle size of 25 U.S. mesh or smaller.

16. (Original) The particulates of claim 10 wherein the particulate is capable of withstanding a closure stress of at least about 2,500 psi.

17. (Previously Presented) The particulates of claim 10 wherein at least a portion of the outer layer is vitrified.

18. – 59. (Cancelled)

60. (Currently Amended) The particulates of claim 1 further comprising a treatment chemical for treating a subterranean formation.

61. (Previously Presented) The particulates of claim 60 wherein the treatment chemical comprises at least one chemical selected from the group consisting of: a gel breaker, an oxidizer, an enzyme, a hydrolysable ester, a scale inhibitor, a biocide, a corrosion inhibitor, and a paraffin inhibitor.

62. (Currently Amended) The particulates of claim 10 further comprising a treatment chemical for treating a subterranean formation.

63. (Previously Presented) The particulates of claim 62 wherein the treatment chemical comprises at least one chemical selected from the group consisting of: a gel breaker, an oxidizer, an enzyme, a hydrolysable ester, a scale inhibitor, a biocide, a corrosion inhibitor, and a paraffin inhibitor.